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UNCLAS THE HAGUE 003036

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

STATE FOR DRL/IRF - KATY LURIE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [CVIS](#) [NL](#)

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS: DUTCH GRANT ENTRY TO REV. MOON

REF: THE HAGUE 02928

1. (SBU) The Dutch Unification Church (DUC) appears to have successfully used the Dutch court system to reverse the Dutch Immigration and Nationalization Service's (IND) decision to deny visas to Unification Church founder Reverend Moon and Mrs. Moon -- at least for now. As reported reftel, the Amsterdam District Court on October 21 rejected the IND's rationale for denying the initial visa requests. The IND subsequently appealed the decision, but DUC President Willem Koetsier informed POLOFF on October 31 that the District Court had refused the IND's appeal and ordered the IND to allow Rev. Moon's entrance into the country.

2. (SBU) On November 2, Rev. and Mrs. Moon entered the Netherlands to participate in a DUC gathering in The Hague. According to Koetsier, Dutch immigration authorities at the Moons' point of entry handled all formalities quickly and presented no obstructions. Rev. and Mrs. Moon left the Netherlands the following day.

3. (SBU) On November 4, Hans Faber (Policy Advisor, IND) confirmed Koetsier's statements. Faber added, however, that the Court's decision is only "preliminary." The Court's final decision may not be immediately forthcoming; Faber explained that the process "can take a very long time." He declined to speculate when the decision may be issued, or whether the IND would block any similar requests from the DUC in the future. The IND can choose to drop their appeal pending the final ruling, though Faber doubted it would do so.
BLAKEMAN